

## Message Text

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15

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

TRSE-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 /074 W

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R 112200Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 799

INFO USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 7801

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, UN, CI

SUBJECT: DEATH OF UN OFFICIAL CARMELO SORIA

REF: A) SANTIAGO 7581 B) SANTIAGO 7718

1. NEW INFORMATION CASTS FURTHER DOUBT ON THE POLICE EXPLANATION THAT UN OFFICIAL CARMELO SORIA DIED IN AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT.

2. THE EXLA CHEF DU CABINET TOLD AN EMBOFF THAT THE OFFICIAL VERSION THAT SORIA HAD BEEN DRUNK AT THE TIME OF THE "ACCIDENT" RANG HOLLOW WITH ECLA. HE SAID SORIA SUFFERED FROM A NEURALGIA CONDITION, CONFIRMED IN AN OFFICIAL PHYSICAL EXAMINATION TWO DAYS BEFORE HIS DISAPPEARANCE. SORIA WAS TOLD CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL WOULD AGGRAVATE THE NEURALGIA CONDITION, SO HE HAD GOOD REASON NOT TO DRINK. YET THE POLICE AUTHORITIES ASSERT THAT THE AUTOPSY REPORT SHOWS ALCOHOL IN THE BODY AND THAT AN EMPTY LIQUOR BOTTLE HAD BEEN FOUND IN SORIA'S CAR (REF A).

3. REFERRING TO THE AUTOPSY REPORT, THE ECLA OFFICIAL STATED THAT THEIR MEDICAL ADVISOR HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT SORIA'S BODY HAD BEEN IN THE CANAL WATERS FOR ONLY 12 HOURS BEFORE ITS DISCOVERY. SORIA DISAPPEARED APPROXIMATELY 48 HOURS BEFORE HIS BODY WAS FOUND.

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4. THE ECLA OFFICIAL FURTHER STATED THAT A UN SENIOR LEGAL

OFFICER ARRIVED IN SANTIAGO RECENTLY TO DISCUSS THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF SORIA'S DEATH AND THE SECURITY OF UN PERSONNEL IN CHILE.

5. A SENIOR RADICAL LEFTIST PARTY (PIR) LEADER TOLD THE AMBASSADOR AUGUST 9 WHAT WE HAD HEARD THE SAME DAY FROM A CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC SOURCE -- NAMELY, THAT THE EXPULSION OF PARTY MEMBER EUGENIO VELASCO (REF B), WAS IN PART TIED TO THE SORIA CASE. ACCORDING TO THE PIR MILITANT, THE SORIA FAMILY HAD RETAINED VELASCO TO REPRESENT THEM IN ALL MATTERS RELATED TO SORIA'S DEATH. VELASCO REPORTEDLY FURNISHED INFORMATION TO THE UN LEGAL OFFICER -- AND HIS INVOLVEMENT ALLEGEDLY FILTERED BACK TO DINA.

6. ANOTHER STORY MAKING THE ROUNDS IS THAT MRS. SORIA, ALLEGEDLY A MEDICAL DOCTOR, CLAIMED THAT BRUISES ON HER HUSBAND'S NECK AND THROAT INDICATED HE HAD BEEN STRANGLER. WE ARE SKEPTICAL REGARDING MRS. SORIA'S CLAIM: SHE IS NOT AN UNPREJUDICED WITNESS; MORE IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, DINA WOULD KNOW HOW SUCH BRUISES WOULD LOOK.

7. COMMENT: WE CAN EXPECT THAT ALLEGATIONS OF OFFICIAL MURDER IN THIS CASE WILL CONTINUE.  
POPPER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**To:** STATE  
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